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P H Y S I C I A N ' S
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P. H. Y. S. I. C. I. A. N. S.



V. A. D. E. C. U. M.

T H E
P H Y S I C I A N's

V A D E M E C U M;
OR, A
CONCISE SYSTEM
OF THE
PRACTICE OF PHYSIC.

Extracted from the Writings of the most eminent
Physicians.

L O N D O N,
Printed for G. ROBINSON, Pater-noster Row.
MDCCLXXXI.

THE

PHYSICIAN

AND MEDICUM

OF

CONCISE SYSTEM



OF PHYSIC

Selected from the Works of the most eminent

Physicians

LONDON

Printed by G. Bohn, at the British Museum

MDCCCXXI

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P R E F A C E.

Notwithstanding the numerous late improvements in Physic, nothing is yet so much wanted as a Judicious Compendium of Practice. The only Treatise of this kind is the *PROCISSUS INTEGRI* of Sydenham; a work which, however valuable, is now, on account of the progress of observation, become in a great measure obsolete. In conformity to that useful model, the

Editor

Editor of the present Tract was of opinion that he should perform a most acceptable service to the Medical Faculty, by exhibiting a system of the art, drawn up in the most practical, and, at the same time, in the concise manner. Such an Epitome is calculated not only to afford, on every occasion, an immediate recourse to the oracular Treasures of Physic, but to imprint on the mind the most useful and essential precepts of the Science. To render the Work of greater utility, particular attention has been paid to identify every disease, particularly

cularly those which are more obscure, or might be confounded with each other; by always delineating their characteristic and indispensable symptoms. Where Prescriptions are given, they have been thrown into notes at the bottom of the page; a method which places them in a conspicuous view, without interrupting the text. It is therefore hoped, that this Treatise, which is intended as a new *Processus Integri*, extracted not from the writings of one physician, but from those of all the most eminent of the present time, will

will meet with that approbation which, by pains, fidelity, and attention, the Editor has endeavoured to obtain.

In the arrangement of the Diseases, the Editor has first given those of a general nature, and afterwards such as are local; delineating first the acute, and next the chronical; and ranking each class in the natural order from the head downwards.

THE
PHYSICIAN'S
VADE MECUM.

INFLAMMATORY FEVER.

THIS fever, the common symptoms of which are a violent head-ach, a strong and hard pulse, great heat and thirst, with high-coloured urine, requires plentiful blood-
ing, which ought to be repeated, if necessary.

After the first bleeding, the body should be opened by a gentle laxative; and costiveness, if attendant, be removed by almost daily clysters throughout the course of the disease.

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Those

Those remedies having been premised, an early sweat is of great advantage for stopping the progress of the fever *.

When the head-ach is not removed by the first bleeding, nor by opening the body, a blister between the shoulders. seldom fails of giving ease; and, if there be a stitch in the side, a blister should be laid on the part affected.

Opiates are to be given only in the advanced state of the disease, when the inflammatory symptoms are much abated, the head not affected, and the patient, after long watching, has no other complaint than want of sleep.

Towards the crisis, or in the decline of the fever, a little wine may be added to the pana-

* One of the most common remedies for this purpose is the following powder, given four times a day in a little barley-water. *R Pulv. contrayerv. comp. ℥i. nitri gr. x. camphor. gr. iii. m.* But what seems preferable is a draught of vinegar-whey, with some spirits of hartshorn. Or instead of this may be given two scruples of salt of hartshorn, saturated with about three spoonfuls of common vinegar in one draught; promoting the diaphoresis with some warm diluting liquor.

da;

da; but in great sinkings, an excellent remedy is some drops of spirit of hartshorn, in a tea-cup full of white wine whey.

After recovery, some mild purge is often requisite, to prevent the too hasty repletion of the convalescents upon indulging their appetite.

BILIOUS, or REMITTING FEVER.

This fever, like most others, begins with chillness and lassitude; pains of the head and bones, accompanied with signs of corrupted humours in the first passages. The patient gets no rest, and often becomes delirious; but generally in the morning an imperfect sweat brings on a remission of all the symptoms.

It is often necessary to begin the cure with opening a vein, and to repeat the bleeding, according to the urgency of the symptoms. The operation may be safely performed either during the remission, or in the height of the

paroxysm; observing the common caution of not bleeding during the sweat.

Venæsection, when necessary, being performed, the next step in the cure is to give emetic tartar *, with the view of either entirely removing the fever, or speedily bringing it to such remissions as will admit of the bark, with which the cure is to be completed.

In the beginning of the disease opiates are not advisable; but when it has lasted long,

* The following is recommended as a safe, and commonly an easy manner of giving this antimonial.

In a quart of water dissolve six grains of emetic tartar, and of this, warm, let the patient drink every ten minutes four or five ounces, till he begin to vomit, and then promote the operation by some warm water, or chamomile tea; or, if necessary, by going on with the same, or smaller doses, or at longer intervals. Commonly when the vomiting stops, the purging begins. But if this last effect should not be produced, let a clyster be administered; and next day, or when there shall be an occasion to repeat the evacuation, dissolve half an ounce, more or less, of one of the neutral purging salts, along with the emetic tartar, in the same quantity of water, to be taken as before.

and

and the patient has been much exhausted by evacuation and low diet, a few drops of tinctura Thebaica, given at night, generally quiets the spirits, and promotes a gentle diaphoresis.

JAIL, or HOSPITAL FEVER.

This fever is generated in places ill aired and dirty, and which are filled with animal steams from foul or diseased bodies. One of the most usual symptoms is a tremor of the hands; but in order to form a diagnostic with greater certainty, we ought to enquire whether the person has been exposed to the ordinary causes of fevers, or to foul air and infection. As the fever advances, the symptoms increase, and in particular the patient complains of lassitude, nausea, pains in the back, a more constant pain and confusion in the head; all which are accompanied with an uncommon dejection of spirits. The pulse sooner or later sinks, and affords certain intelligence of the nature of the disease. In an advanced state, the breath is

offensive, and the sweats fetid; at which time, for the most part, if not before, the patient grows dull of hearing, and at last almost deaf. Petechiæ sometimes appear.

Before the disease is completely formed, it may sometimes be extinguished by removing the patient out of the foul air, or, if that cannot be done, by purefying the apartment; making a ventilation by means of fire, or letting in the air by doors and windows, diffusing the steams of vinegar, or the like.

As the next step to prevention, a vomit ought to be given; and afterwards a fudorific medicine, such as Theriac. Andromachi, with some grains of salt of hartshorn, and draughts of vinegar-whey.

In the second state, when the disease is manifest, if the pulse is full, some blood may be taken away; but even moderate venæsection is not to be repeated without caution.

If the patient is not in the lowest state, but complains of a head-ach, costiveness, and a disorder of the stomach, the first passages ought
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then to be cleared. But in the advanced state of the fever, emetics are to be cautiously used; and if the disease is accompanied with a sickness at the stomach, this symptom may frequently be removed by giving the saline draughts in the act of effervescence.

A laxative clyster ought to be given daily, or frequently, if the patient have no stools otherwise.

The next step ought to be to promote perspiration, which at first should be attempted only by the cooler diaphoretics, such as spiritus Mindereri, the contrayerva powder with nitre and camphor, and barley-water acidulated with vinegar.

The third and longest stage begins in three or four days after the fever is formed, or often later. The pulse sinks, the stupor is great, a delirium is threatened, and petechiæ often appear. As soon as the first of those symptoms occurs, the method of cure must be varied, and the principal intention be to support the *vis vitæ*. The nitre, therefore, should be omit-

ted in the diaphoretic powders, and ten grains of Virginian snake-root be substituted *.

In the low state of the fever, when a cordial is required, nothing is comparable to wine. But if the delirium increases upon using this remedy, or other heating medicines, blisters, which before were not advisable, become of great service.

In this fever a delirium will arise from two opposite errors; one from large and repeated bleedings, and the other from wine and cordial medicines being taken too early. Neither a hot, nor a cool regimen, therefore, will answer with every patient, nor in every state of the disease.

* In the advanced and sunk state of the fever, the bark and the snake-root are joined together with good effect, in the following decoction, of which three or four spoonfuls may be taken every four or six hours, according to circumstances.

R Cort. Peruvian. impulverem contriti ℥iii. coque ex aq. fontan. ℥xvi. ad ℥viii. adjectis sub finem coctionis rad. serpent. virg. contus ℥ii. stent per horam, dein colaturæ admisce aq. alexeter. spirituos. cum aceto ℥ii. sacchar. alb. ℥β.

After

After the fever, when it is common for the patient to complain of want of rest, a vertigo, or confusion of the head, with a continuation of the deafness, or of other nervous symptoms, an opiate should be taken at night; and in the day some strengthening remedies, such as the bark, or the elixir of vitriol.

Sometimes the patient falls into an irregular intermittent, which, if not of a hectic nature, from an internal abscess, may proceed from neglecting to clear the primæ viæ. In such circumstances, after proper evacuation by a purge, the bark is almost a sure remedy.

AGUES, or INTERMITTENT FEVERS.

Very little preparation of the body is requisite, previous to the administration of the bark in intermitting fevers; it being sufficient to cleanse the stomach and bowels by an emetic or purge*.

* When there is any nausea or sickness, six or eight grains of ipecacuanha may be given; but
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An ounce, or an ounce and a half of the bark, taken during one intermission, is often sufficient to prevent the return of another paroxysm; but this is not always the case. The medicine ought not to be omitted as soon as one fit is stopt; but should be continued in a smaller dose for at least ten days or a fortnight. Even for several months after the disease is removed, it would be advisable to take a little bark occasionally in damp weather, or during an easterly wind, to prevent a relapse. The efficacy of the bark is observed to be increased by administering it in juleps or draughts, with the plentiful addition of wine, or spirits, or with a little of the spiritus salis ammoniaci, or tinctura myrrhæ.

When the bark is entirely nauseated from

when those symptoms do not attend, it seems preferable to give a stomachic purge; such as an ounce or two of tinctura sacra, or a few grains of the pilulæ Rufi. These are to be administered in the intermission, immediately after the fever has ceased, so that their operation may be over before the return of the fit.

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a weakness of the stomach, or from an aversion of the patient to that medicine, it is advisable to give it in clysters *.

To children labouring under intermitting fevers, and who are utterly averse to medicines that have a disagreeable taste or smell, the bark has been successfully administered in a quilted waistcoat †.

* For this purpose, after emptying the bowels by a cathartic clyster, the most efficacious form is a solution of the extract of the bark, joined to a sufficient quantity of tinctura Thebaica, in order to its being longer retained.

† See Medical Observations and Inquiries, vol. ii. A paroxysm is often prevented in children by anointing the spine of the back, at the approach of the fit, with a liniment composed of equal parts of tinctura Thebaica and linimentum saponaceum. If this should not produce the desired effect, two or three tea-spoonfuls of syrupus e meconio, given in the hot fit, will generally be found to mitigate the symptoms. But for the entire removal of the disease, after purging with magnesia, a drachm of the extract of the bark, with a few drops of tinctura Thebaica, in a clyster, may be given every three hours to a child about a year old.

It is found that opium, when given half an hour after the commencement of the hot fit, generally affords immediate relief, by removing the head-ach, abating the fever, and producing a profuse sweat *.

NERVOUS FEVER.

In this fever the pulse, as well as the heats and chills are extremely unequal and fluctuating. The disease is generally accompanied with a heaviness and dejection of spirits, an oppressive breathing, more or less of a load, pain,

* Dr. Lind, who introduced this practice, considers opium, in an ague, as the best preparative for the bark. He prescribes the opiate in about two ounces of tinctura sacra, when the patient is collicive; ordering the bark to be taken immediately after the fit. By this means the paroxysm is shortened, and the intestines cleansed previous to the administration of the bark; the operation of the tinctura sacra not being prevented, but only somewhat retarded by the opiate.

or giddiness of the head, a nausea, and frequent reachings to vomit. The symptoms sometimes abate, but return with aggravation towards night. A great torpor, or obtuse pain and coldness, affects the hinder part of the head frequently; and oftentimes a heavy pain is felt on the top all along the coronary future. The urine is commonly pale.

In this disease all great evacuations, especially bleeding, are injurious. It is sometimes necessary, however, to cleanse the primæ viæ by a gentle puke, a little rhubarb, manna, &c. Clysters of milk, sugar, and salt, may be injected with advantage every second or third day, if the body be costive.

The best remedies are the temperate, cordial, diaphoretic medicines*, with a supporting and diluting diet, well-timed blisters, and a due care

* To compositions of this nature a little theriac. Andromachi, or elixir paregoricum, may be added; and spiritus volatilis aromaticus may be taken now and then out of thin wine-whey, or that of mustard.

to keep the patient as quiet as possible, both in body and mind.

Seldom any thing completely critical is observed in this fever; and in many cases it seems to be extinguished by time alone. No discharge affords greater hope of recovery than a free salivation without aphthæ. During the progress of the fever, a warm moisture of the skin is beneficial, as is also a gentle diarrhœa in the decline of the disease; but profuse sweats, and crude colliquative stools, are highly prejudicial.

Towards the decline of the fever, the bark and snake-root should be joined to the cordial medicines; interposing now and then a little rhubarb, to carry off the putrid humours in the first passages.

SCARLET FEVER.

The scarlet fever generally makes its appearance towards the end of summer, and particularly attacks children, whom it seizes with chillness and shivering, as in other fevers, but without much sickness. Afterwards the skin is covered with red spots, more numerous, much broader, of a fuller red, but less uniform than those of the measles. When they have continued two or three days, they disappear, and the skin is scaled off; a branny desquamation succeeding two or three times.

When the disease appears in the form above mentioned, it is thought sufficient that the patients abstain from flesh meats and strong liquors, and that they keep within doors, but not in bed, and take a gentle purge when the desquamation of the skin is completed. Of late, however, the disorder has been often seen
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in a malignant form, and generally accompanied with a fore throat.

In the malignant scarlet fever, the liberal use of emetics appears to be the most successful method of cure. The vomit ought to be powerful, and in ordinary cases repeated once in forty-eight hours. In patients with more urgent symptoms it must be given daily; and in the worst cases twice in twenty-four hours.

CATARRHOUS FEVER.

The catarrhus fever, besides the evacuations and dilution necessary for abating the inflammation, requires the use of demulcents, such as spermaceti, pulv. contrayerv. comp. &c. and that the morbid matter be discharged by the outlet which nature seems to adopt for the crisis of the disease; whether by expectoration, diarrhoea, erysipelas, or any other channel.

PUER-

PUERPERAL, or CHILD-BED FEVER.

The chief characteristics of this fever are a great tumefaction and tenderness of the abdomen, and a dejection of spirits. In its earlier stage it is attended with the signs of inflammation, which usually subsiding in a few days, the disease acquires a more putrid form.

When the patient is plethoric, and the symptoms of inflammation rise high, blood-letting, doubtless, is indicated: but the method of cure most generally applicable is to promote, by the stomach, when there is a nausea, and by the intestines, the discharge of the putrid humours, which appear to be the support of the disease.

To answer those intentions a moderate dose of ipecacuanha may first be prescribed; and af-

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terwards gentle laxatives, such as rhubarb and magnesia, repeated daily *.

The saline draughts are useful both in the inflammatory and putrid state.

The pains of the belly ought to be mitigated by emollient fomentations; and injections of the same kind should also be frequently repeated; care being taken to apply the latter with as much gentleness as possible, because in

* Instead of these remedies, the following, which promotes both the discharges, may be used.

R Tartar. emetic. gr. ii.

Ocul. cancror. præp. ℥i. intime misceantur.

Of a powder thus prepared, may be given from two to six grains, and repeated as circumstances require. If the first dose does not procure any sensible operation, it may be repeated in an increased quantity at the end of two hours. Should the disease be abated, but not removed by the effects of the first dose, the same medicine ought to be repeated, but in a less quantity, till all danger is over. But if any alarming symptoms remain, we need not hesitate to repeat the powder, in the same quantity as first given, though this is seldom necessary, if the first dose operates properly.

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this disease the parts in the pelvis are endowed with great sensibility.

M I L K F E V E R.

This fever usually supervenes a few days after delivery, when the lochia begin to abate, and the breasts become turgid with milk.

When the pain and distension of the breasts rise not to any considerable height, this fever is generally cured by means of a slender diet only. But if it should prove more violent, as sometimes happens, especially in young women of a plethoric constitution, after their first delivery, the inflammation must be abated by bleeding, which ought to be performed in the axilla.

Afterwards, if the breasts are hard, very turgid, or inflamed, apply emollient fomentations and cataplasms; to the former of which a small quantity of compound spirits may be joined, as a discutient.

HECTIC FEVER.

The appearance of the hectic fever is not unlike that of the genuine intermittent; from which, however, the disease is very different in its nature, as well as infinitely more dangerous. In the hectic fever, the chillness, heat, and sweat do not succeed each other so regularly as in the true intermittent; and it is not uncommon for one of those stages to be wanting. When the sweat is over, the fever will sometimes continue; and in the middle of the fever the chillness will return; a circumstance which affords the most certain mark of this disease.

The urine, in a true intermittent, is clear in the fits, and turbid in the intervals; but in the hectic fever it is liable to all kinds of irregularity.

Hectic patients often complain of pains like those of the rheumatism, which either affect
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by turns almost every part of the body, or else return constantly to the same part, which is often at a great distance from the seat of the principal disorder, and, as far as is known, without any peculiar connection with it. Those pains seem to be more common where the hectic fever arises from some ulcer open to the external air, as in cancers of the face, breasts, &c.

The hectic fever is also frequently accompanied with swellings of the limbs, neck, or trunk of the body, which rise up almost in an instant, as if the part was all at once grown fatter. Those swellings are not painful, hard, nor discoloured, and they continue for several hours.

This fever will supervene whenever there is a great collection of matter formed in any part of the body; but it more particularly attends upon the inflammation of a scirrhus gland, and even upon one that is slight, and only just beginning; the fever growing worse in proportion as the gland becomes more inflamed, ulcerated, or gangrenous. And such is the ling-

ering nature of those glandular disorders, that the first of those stages will continue for many months, and the second for some years.

Lying-in-women, on account of the violence sustained in delivery, generally die of this fever; and women of the age of near fifty and upwards, are particularly liable to it.

This fever is never less dangerous than when it arises from a kindly suppuration, into which all the diseased parts are melted down, and for which there is a proper outlet.

The same medicines are not likely always to suit this anomalous fever, which, arising from very different causes, is attended with a variety of symptoms. A mixture of assafoetida and opium has in some persons seemed singularly serviceable in this fever, when brought on by a small wound; but in most other cases the principal, if not the sole, attention of the physician must be employed in relieving the symptoms, by tempering the heat, by preventing both costiveness and purging, by procuring sleep, and by checking the sweats. If at the
same

same time he put the body into as good general health as may be, by air, exercise, and a proper course of mild diet, he can perhaps do nothing better than leave all the rest to the favourable guidance of nature.

S M A L L - P O X.

This disease is generally distinguished into two kinds, the distinct and the confluent; in both which, however, there are several subdivisions, that derive their denomination from the different appearance of the pustules; such as the crystalline, the warty, the filiquose, sanguineous, &c.

The most characteristic signs of the eruptive fever are frequent sneezing, paleness, and sometimes a sudden glow of one or both cheeks, a peculiar disagreeable smell of the breath, oppression and anxiety about the præcordia, foreness at the pit of the stomach when pressed with the finger, a heavy look, and a disposi-

tion to sleep; the last of which symptoms is more remarkable in children than in adults.

The cure may be divided into four stages, viz. 1. The eruptive fever. 2. The progress of eruption. 3. The maturation of the pustules. 4. The secondary fever.

I. In the first stage, namely that of the eruption, if the fever rise too high, it ought to be moderated, and the eruption retarded to the most favourable period, which is the third or fourth day from the commencement of the disease. Bleeding is therefore to be used, and repeated according to the violence of the symptoms.

Some cooling physic is then to be administered; such as salts and manna, infusion of senna, &c. after the operation of which a saline draught may be given every four hours.

During this stage of the disease the patient ought not to be kept too warm, nor confined, but exposed as usual to the open air, unless the weather be too cold.

The drink should be cold water, or butter-milk,

milk, except when the patient takes physic, when it should be warm whey or gruel.

At this period the acid and sweet spirits of vitriol may also be prescribed, either in juleps, or the patient's drink.

II. In the second stage, viz. During the progress of eruption, when we ought to prevent, as much as possible, the pustules from becoming too numerous, the same remedies may be employed as in the first stage; except that bleeding may not perhaps be necessary, if it has been practised freely before.

In the third stage, or during maturation, bleeding and purging are to be used more cautiously than in the two former stages, unless very urgent symptoms indicate the necessity of them. The patient should be confined for the most part to bed, but not covered with more cloaths than usual. Care, however, should be taken, if the weather be cold, to keep his hands and arms covered, to promote the maturation of the pustules; for which purpose the arms and legs ought also to be fomented

mented or bathed every evening in warm milk and water, or bran and water. The bark should also be given in substance or decoction; and the saline draughts, if the fever runs too high. Gentle opiates ought to be administered from time to time, to abate the pain and procure rest; and the body should be kept open by mild clysters or purges.

The patient's drink may consist of new milk, either alone or diluted with warm water, or ptisan. His linen should be changed every day; his bed often made; and the windows and door of the bed-chamber be frequently opened, to admit the fresh air.

In the fourth stage, when the maturation is completed, begins the secondary fever, which arises from the absorption of the variolous matter, and frequently proves very dangerous, on account of the patient's weakness at this period. We must now watch attentively every change, endeavour to support nature, prevent the return of the morbid matter into
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the blood, and, if any has been already introduced, to discharge it by the natural outlets.

For those purposes the bark should be continued, unless delirium or difficulty of breathing forbids its use. Diuretics, such as syrup or oxymel of squills, sweet spirit of nitre, &c. should be prescribed; and laxatives, if the body be costive.

If the patient be too low, or attacked with fainting fits; or if the pustules and swelling of the hands and feet subside, wine and cordials ought to be administered; with blisters to the legs or arms, or sinapisms to the soles of the feet.

When the incrustation is completed, and the pox is dry, a few doses of gentle physic should be given at proper intervals, to carry off the remains of the disease.

If the patient appears very weak, or shews a tendency to consumption, a milk diet, the bark, and gentle exercise, with a change of air, should be prescribed.

To prevent pitting, when the pox begin to dry, the patient's face should be anointed with
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some softening application, such as cream, fresh butter, hog's lard, or sweet oil.

M E A S L E S.

The measles begin with shivering. Chills and flushes of heat succeed each other alternately. The person is seized with nausea, sickness, and vomiting: a fever ensues, accompanied with a heaviness of the head, sleepiness, a troublesome cough, a discharge of lymph from the nostrils, sneezing, and an effusion of tears, with a dryness of the skin. The spots commonly appear on the fourth day. Having continued two or three days, they become pale, and more rough, and the cuticle now breaking, desquamation succeeds.

This disease being for the most part of a very inflammatory nature, the principal remedy is blood-letting, which is to be used not only before the eruption, but after it has disappeared, according

according to the urgency of the symptoms. In the latter stage also blisters are frequently proper.

After the disappearance of the eruption great benefit has been observed from the use of the Peruvian bark, combined with the saline draughts; the patient being first bled, if the signs of inflammation were urgent.

ERYSIPELAS, or ST. ANTHONY'S FIRE.

This disorder, by some called a blight, is frequently occasioned by too sudden cooling after great heat. It arises from a hot acrid humour, begins with a shivering and prostration of strength, and is generally attended with a fever. The local symptoms are heat, a redness inclining to yellow, accompanied frequently with scurf and small pimples; and if the disorder be in the face, with a tumour and watery vesicles.

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If the disease be attended with a fever, it is proper to let blood : but when this evacuation is unnecessary, it may be sufficient to prescribe gentle purgatives, and, on the intermediate days, some diaphoretic medicine, such as pulv. contrayerv. comp. with a few grains of camphor and nitre.

INFLAMMATION of the BRAIN.

An idiopathic phrenitis, or inflammation of the brain, requires immediate, large, and repeated blood-letting, which is thought to be most successful when performed in the jugular. After bleeding, apply three or four leeches to each temple.

The internal remedies are antiphlogistics, particularly nitre.

In the symptomatic phrenitis also a vein may be opened, if the pulse will admit ; but if not, the cure must be attempted by leeches and blisters.

In a phrenitis of either kind, it is of great advantage to apply a fomentation to the feet and lower part of the legs, with double flannels wrung out of water (with a seventh of vinegar) made agreeably warm; and to repeat it often for an hour or two at a time.

INFLAMMATION of the EYES.

If the inflammation be considerable, the patient ought to be immediately blooded, either in the arm or jugular.

In all inflammations of the eyes, after bleeding, or where that operation is unnecessary, great benefit arises from applying two or more leeches to the lower part of the orbit, or near the external angle of the eye, and allowing the wounds to ooze till they stop of themselves.

Blisters applied behind the ears, especially if continued for two or three days, and the sores be afterwards kept running, are highly useful.

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The best topical remedy is warm milk and water; with which, in violent pains, some white poppy heads may be boiled.

When the inflammation has yielded a little to evacuations, the coagulum aluminosum of the London Dispensatory, spread on lint, and applied at bed-time, may be used with advantage; as may also the unguent. e lapid. calaminar.

QUINSEY, or INFLAMMATION of the THROAT.

This disorder requires speedy and large blood-
ing, which, if the inflammation is not diminished, ought to be repeated next day. When the inflammation is obstinate, good effects have been observed from opening the veins under the tongue, called the raninae, and taking from them as much blood as will come.

Venæ-

Venæsection having been performed, a lenient purge ought to be given, and afterwards daily clysters to open the body.

After the first bleeding, a large blister ought to be applied to the back; and, in bad cases, one may also be laid across the throat *.

In this disorder, antiphlogistic remedies are best administered in a liquid form.

When a suppuration is advancing, a proper gargle is milk and water boiled with some figs; a bit of which the patient may be directed to keep as near as possible to the part affected †.

MALIG-

* Much benefit has sometimes been observed from the sudorific effects of a piece of thick flannel, moistened with two parts of common sweet oil, and one of spirit of hartshorn, or a larger portion of the latter, if the skin will bear it, applied to the throat, and renewed once in four or five hours.

† Dr. Withering informs us, that in this disease he has used emetics for many years past with the greatest success. If the vomit is given, he says, on the first or second day of the disorder, and the patient keeps in bed a few hours afterwards, drinks gruel freely, and takes tartar emetic in small doses to promote perspiration, he rises perfectly cured.

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MALIGNANT, or PUTRID SORE THROAT.

This disease is most common in autumn, and is highly contagious. It consists in a painful red swelling of the tonsils, and mucous mem-

If the inflammation has proceeded to such a length as entirely to prevent deglutition, a little tartar emetic, we are told, repeatedly put back in the mouth, and suffered to dissolve there, will in time excite vomiting. The doctor adds, that after the first discharge from the stomach, the patient is able to swallow a large draught of gruel, and thus to continue the operation. The most urgent symptoms are instantaneously relieved, and in a day or two, sometimes with, and sometimes without the emetic, the patient is quite well. If the disorder has continued so long that matter is already formed, vomiting promotes the rupture of the abscess, and dispels the surrounding inflammation. Dr. Withering subjoins, that there may be cases in which blood-letting is absolutely necessary; but he has never yet seen any such. He never directed any other medicine, either internal or external, except an injected gargle, to promote the discharge of the viscid mucus.

brane

brane of the fauces, attended with ulcers, which are covered by white or ash-coloured sloughs, and with a putrid exanthematous fever, difficulty of breathing and swallowing. It is chiefly incident to persons of a relaxed habit, seizing children rather than adults, and the female sex more frequently than the male.

This species of angina is accompanied with different symptoms in different persons; but in general the patient is affected with a great degree of languor and lassitude, a fluttering and irregular flying pains over the body. These symptoms are succeeded by giddiness of the head, chillness and shivering, which are soon followed by great heat. The chillness and heat succeed each other alternately for several hours, till at length the latter becomes more constant and intense, and forms a principal complaint throughout the disease.

The patient also complains of soreness and stiffness, rather than pain of the throat, attended with hoarseness, and sometimes a cough; great stiffness of the neck, and violent sickness,

with vomiting, or purging, if not both. Vomiting and purging, however, are most common in children; adults frequently having neither, and being even costive.

The pulse is generally quick, small, and fluttering: in some hard and small, in others soft and full; but always without that strength and firmness which accompany inflammatory diseases. The disorder, from the beginning, is accompanied with great restlessness, anxiety, fainting, and remarkable dejection of spirits. The breath has a nauseous offensive smell, which at length becomes almost intolerable to the patient's self.

In some the whole body is œdematous to such a degree, that an impression made with the finger will remain. The inside of the nostrils is inflamed and excoriated, and continually dripping a thin, corrosive, sanious ichor, or white putrid matter, so acrid as to excoriate the lips, cheeks, and hands of children labouring under the disease, and which sometimes gives occasion to violent gripings, dysentery, and excoriations of the anus and adjacent parts.

This

This disease has no regular crisis. Some grow better from the very first day of its attack; but more commonly, under proper treatment, the disease is removed off or before the seventh day. Some patients are carried off on the second or third day, by the matter falling upon the lungs, and exciting a peripneumony.

This disorder appears to be accompanied with a great debility of the nervous power, and a dissolved state of the fluids; whence the indications of cure are, to correct the putrescent tendency throughout the system in general, and to stop the progress of putrefaction in particular parts.

In this disease blood-letting is in general prejudicial. Some patients indeed admit of it at the first attack without any sensible inconvenience; but a repetition of it, even where the disease is mild and favourable, seldom fails to aggravate the symptoms.

Purging, even with the gentlest laxatives, is always found to be injurious. Costiveness may be obviated much better by ripe fruits, and oc-

casional clysters of the antiseptic kind, than by any other cathartic medicines.

Vomiting is one of the evacuations which may be sometimes employed in this disease, especially when a nausea is very urgent at the beginning.

Notwithstanding the septic nature of cantharides, blisters have been found useful in this complaint, by raising the pulse, and supporting the vis vitæ.

In the malignant angina, as in other putrid diseases, the liberal use of wine is attended with great advantage. The dulcified acids, myrrh, camphor, and the *confectio cardiaca*, are also highly beneficial. But nothing proves more efficacious than the early use of the Peruvian bark.

Whenever a person is attacked with the malignant angina, he should be kept to his bed in a well-aired room, in order to promote a gentle perspiration, which is always beneficial; tho' profuse sweating, like every other excessive evacuation, is hurtful. If the patient should be
seized

seized with violent sickness and vomiting, this ought to be encouraged by taking a few grains of ipecacuanha, and by drinking chamomile or carduus tea. Ipecacuanha is in this case remarked to be preferable to antimonial emetics, as being less disposed to run off by stool.

When the emetic has finished its operation, the stomach should be settled, and a diaphoresis encouraged by a gentle sedative draught*.

The next step in the cure is immediately to give the bark in large doses, and those frequently repeated; which hardly ever fails of procuring speedy relief, if the disease be taken in time†.

The

- R Spiritus nitri dulcis ʒß.
- Syrup. e meconio ʒi.
- Aq. cinnamom. ten. ʒi. m.

† Various modes of administering this medicine have been recommended; but in most cases the substance appears to be superior to any preparation of it. The quantity to be taken is at least half a drachm every three hours.

- R Decoct. cort. Peruvian. ʒvi.
- Pulv. cort. Peruvian. subtilif.

The patient's diet should consist chiefly of preparations of the farinaceous vegetables,
panado,

Spiritus vitrioli dulcis ana ℥ii.

Sacchari limoniati ℥vi.

Fiat mistura de qua cochlearia tria sunt sumenda secunda vel tertia quaque hora.

Or,

℞ Spiritus Mindereri subacidi ℥ii.

Decocti cort. Peruvian. ℥vi.

Pulv. subtilis. cort. ejusdem ℥ii.

Aq. cinnam. spirituof.

Sacchar. alb. ana ℥i.

Fiat mistura, cujus capiat cochlearia quatuor tertia quaque hora.

The bark must not be discontinued because it vomits the patient a few times at first. For even when this happens, it is a useful remedy, and the best emetic that could be given; because it cleans the throat, at the same time that it acts as a most excellent antiseptic topical application; and having been thrown up a few times, it will frequently afterwards stay upon the stomach without the least inconvenience. If the stomach should continue constantly to reject it, we must then give it in clysters, in which form it produces nearly the same effects as when given in the other way; but a double quantity of it must be employed.

℞ Pulv.

panado, fago, falep, &c. with Port wine or claret. All sorts of summer fruit, oranges, strawberries, mulberries, currants, cherries, apples roasted or boiled, &c. unless contra-indicated by a diarrhoea, should be eaten in great plenty.

The drink should be good rough cyder, or water mixed with plenty of Port, and acidulat-

R Pulv. cort. Peruvian.

Gum Arabic ana ʒi.

Decocti albi ʒiv.

Fiat enema tertia quaque hora injiciendum.

It is sometimes necessary to administer nourishment as well as medicine by means of clysters. In such cases it is an excellent method to mix the quantities of bark and gum Arabic, above prescribed, with four ounces of new milk, which makes a composition both nutritious and antiseptic.

At the same time we must endeavour to check the vomiting, by giving spiritus nitri dulcis in peppermint water, or the saline draughts of Riverius in the act of effervescence.

The operation of the bark, and its easy digestion, may be promoted in many cases by joining with it some aromatic remedies, particularly the confectio cardiaca, which is an useful cordial in this disease.

ed with the mineral acids, particularly spiritus vitrioli tenuis, or elixir vitrioli. But the dulcified acids are always to be preferred for children, because they have less tendency to coagulate the milk.

Besides wine diluted with water for common drink, the patient ought frequently to take it pure as a cordial; and in this view a glass of good Port is preferable to officinal medicines. When the diarrhœa is profuse, the wine should be mulled with spices*.

The remaining part of the indication is to stop the progress of putrefaction wherever it appears, especially in the fauces and throat. For this purpose the mouth and throat must often be washed with acid, astringent, and an-

* If the patient should have any tendency to a diarrhœa in the beginning of the disorder, the following apozem may be drank at pleasure.

R Gum Arabic. $\mathfrak{z}$ β .
 Aq. hordei lib. β .
 Spiritus nitri dulc. $\mathfrak{z}$ β .
 Sacchari rosacei $\mathfrak{z}$ i.
 Fiat apozema.

tiseptic

tiseptic gargles; and always before the patient eats, drinks, or takes medicines *.

External applications to the neck are also sometimes used with advantage. When the symptoms are mild, a drachm of camphor add-

* In the milder stages of the disease, this intention is answered by vinegar and water; but when the ulcers are large, and increase very fast, gargles made of tincture of myrrh, with simple oxymel, and strongly acidulated with spiritus vitrioli tenuis, may be employed with advantage. The following also is well adapted for this purpose :

R Tinctur. rosar. lib. ℥.

Mel. rosar. ʒ ℥.

Sp. falis marin. ʒ ℥.

Fiat gargarisma.

Or,

R Tinctur. rosar. lib. ℥.

Mel. rosar.

Sp. nitri dulc. ana ʒ ℥.

Fiat gargarisma.

Children who are incapable of using gargles should have them injected into the stomach with a syringe; and the person that attends them should frequently wash their mouth with a linen rag, made wet in spirit of salt, well diluted with tinctura rosarum.

ed to an ounce of the volatile liniment, and rubbed frequently on the neck, will be sufficient. In the more advanced stages, tincture of the bark is a better application. Either of them is preferable to cataplasms, which are apt to become cold, stiff, and uneasy to the patient, and therefore do much more hurt than good. A blister to the neck, in these circumstances, is never to be omitted.

Antiseptic vapours deserve also to be considered as remedies of great importance. The steams of myrrh and camphor, boiled in vinegar and honey, are of considerable use in cases of malignant angina, by facilitating respiration, and increasing the flow of saliva. But they are farther serviceable in correcting the putrid quality of the air, which being thrown out from the lungs, occasion the parts about the throat, fauces, and nostrils, to be particularly affected with malignant ulcers. The humid vapour of vinegar, with honey and myrrh, or camphor, should be drawn into the mouth of the sick, as often as they can conveniently do it,

For

For guarding against the effects of so putrid a contagion, it is also proper that the acid air or spirit of sea-salt should be kept rising constantly in the room, by pouring oil of vitriol once or twice a day on sea salt placed in a convenient vessel.

Moderate warmth, especially in winter, is particularly necessary. The patients should therefore always be confined to their chamber; and in admitting fresh air by the windows, care must be taken not to check perspiration, which is so highly beneficial in this disease. It is proper, however, that fresh air should be admitted, so far as is consistent with moderate warmth; and that as many growing vegetables be placed in the room as it will conveniently hold.

The malignant angina, especially after repeated attacks, sometimes leaves a tendency to consumption; in which cases riding and a milk diet are the best remedies. It often happens that tumours in the glands and throat remain after this disease. Sometimes the abdomen swells, and the patient is subject to painful gripings, which probably arise from, or are accompanied

complicated with an infarction of the lymphatic glands in the abdomen.

These complaints will generally yield to friction, strengthening bitters, and the bark. Active purgatives are in these circumstances always pernicious, and the gentlest laxatives only are admissible. Five or six grains of rhubarb, with the same quantity of sal polychrest, given once a day, and continued for some time, with the use of a simple chalybeate water, have been found very serviceable in removing those relics of the disease.

SUFFOCATIO STRIDULA, or the CROUP.

This disease is peculiar to children from the time they are weaned till twelve years old, and in certain seasons of the year, viz. from October to March. Its characteristic symptoms are, a shrill voice, quick, laborious breathing, the pulse frequent and strong at first, but weak towards the end of the disease, hardly any difficulty of deglutition, or remarkable inflammation of the fauces, a dull pain, and sometimes external swelling at the upper part of the trachea, with the senses distinct to the last. The disease is the more dangerous, as, though extremely rapid in its progress, it gives no alarm till death is near at hand.

By some this disease is considered as entirely spasmodic, and said to have been successfully cured by the use of assafoetida. Others, however, regarding it as inflammatory, advise blood-letting,

letting, both general and topical; vomiting, upon the first attack of the disease, immediately after venæsection; blistering near the part affected; and the frequent use of laxative clysters.

PLEURISY and PERIPNEUMONY.

The pleurisy and peripneumony ought to be considered as one disease; in which the lungs are always inflamed, and often without the pleura; but the latter never alone.

The grand remedy is blood-letting, which ought to be freely used during the first three or four days of the disease, provided there be no spitting. But if the latter begins, venæsection must either be entirely omitted, or so moderated as to relieve the breast, without impairing the strength, or checking the expectoration.

Immediately

Immediately after blood-letting, if there be only a general oppression of the chest, apply a large blister between the shoulders; and afterwards, if the complaint prove obstinate, successively to each of the sides. But if, instead of a general oppression, there be a local pain, apply the blister directly to the part affected.

If, after blistering, a sweat does not come on, accompanied with a relief from pain, it will be more secure to repeat the bleeding.

Blisters, when applied either to the chest or the extremities, tend to relieve the peripneumonic oppression, and promote expectoration; whereas blood-letting must be cautiously, if at all, used after the spitting appears.

The degree of oppression, or pain, and of the patient's strength, are here particularly the great moderators of venæsection, which ought to be so regulated, that while we endeavour to relieve the two first, we may not too much impair the latter, and thereby suppress expectoration, which is the natural crisis of the disease. To prevent the lungs from being over-

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powered

powered with blood, on one hand, and on the other to support the expectoration, are the rules by which to ascertain the expediency of drawing more blood; but blisters are always seasonable, whether for raising the pulse, or relieving the breast.

Not only during the height of the inflammation, but throughout the whole stage of expectoration, the patient ought to take frequently a small tea-cupful of a pectoral infusion* warm; and once in five or six hours, some spoonfuls of an oily mixture†.

While

* For this purpose may be used the ingredients of the decoctum pectorale; adding to a quart of the infusion one ounce of the simple oxymel.

† R Mellis (vel syrup. ex althæa) ℥vi.

Gum. Arabic. pulverisat. ℥i.

Aq. rosar. ℥ii.

Accurate subactis admisce invicem

Ol. amygdal. dulc. ℥i℥.

Aq. puræ ℥vi.

But when the expectoration flags, instead of this last medicine, we may order as much of the oxymel
scilliticum

While the pulse continues hard, or the breathing difficult, or when watchfulness proceeds from the fever, opiates do harm. But when the fever has ceased, and sleep is prevented only by a thin rheum falling on the fauces, or lungs, opiates, especially if joined to squills, not only afford rest, but promote expectoration.

In the advanced state of these inflammations, when the patient has been brought low by bleeding, whilst some difficulty of breathing and cough remain, with a sensible increase of fever at night, a remission in the day, and a breaking in the water, the decoction of the bark, except in the height of the paroxysms, has been successfully administered.

scilliticum as the patient can take without sickness, or purging. Or, what is often more effectual, four spoonfuls, once in six or eight hours, of a solution of gum ammoniac.

R *Spermatis ceti* (ex vitello ovi quantum fatis est soluti) ʒ ii.

Lactis ammoniaci ʒ vii.

Syrup. croci ʒ vi. m.

E 2

During

During the continuance of those inflammations, it is advisable for the patient to breathe over the steam of hot water ; to which, when the phlegm is viscid, may be added a small portion of vinegar.

HOOPING-COUGH, or CHIN-COUGH.

Various opinions have been formed concerning the seat of this disease. Some have supposed it to be in the lungs, some in the stomach, and some in both ; while others have contended that it is in the head of the windpipe, or of the gullet ; and another writer, that it proceeds from an affection of the intestinal canal.

The most useful medicine in this disease, however, is the Peruvian bark, with some grains of castor. A blister to the neck is also frequently of great benefit. Blood-letting is seldom requisite ; but a gentle puke, and keeping the body open by magnesia, or some other
laxative,

laxative, are of great advantage ; as is likewise the promoting of perspiration by some mild diaphoretic, such as the pulv. contrayervæ compositus *.

* Good effects have been experienced from the following antimonial medicine, which, though not a certain cure in all cases, appears to be as useful a remedy in this distemper as any we are yet acquainted with.

R Pulv. echelis cancror. ʒ β.

Tartar. emetic. gr. ii.

Accurate misceantur.

The intention of the testaceous powder in this case, is chiefly to make the emetic tartar divisible into very small doses with precision and without difficulty. One grain, one grain and a half, or two grains of this composition may be added to five or six of any testaceous powder, and given in a small spoonful of milk and water, in the forenoon, between breakfast and dinner, to a child of a year old.

The extract of hemlock has also been recommended in this disease.

HÆMOPTOE.

In a hæmoptoe, when the pulse is full and hard, the latter of which circumstances almost always exists, more or less, in this complaint, blood-letting is necessary, and ought to be repeated as the state of the patient may require.

Frequent doses of nitre are found to be highly advantageous in this complaint*.

When the cough is very troublesome, a small opiate, frequently exhibited, is necessary. A cool regimen, with quiet both of body and mind, are also advantageous during the continuance of the disease.

* The nitre has been found equally advantageous whether joined with conserve of roses, spermaceti, or gum tragacanth.

COUGH and CONSUMPTION.

A recent cough from cold being of an inflammatory nature, the principal remedy is blood-letting, with a low diet. But the complaint may be generally cured without venæ-section, by inhaling into the lungs the steams of water, and abating the cough by the use of demulcent medicines and opiates. But when the cough is of long standing, oily medicines do harm by their relaxing quality.

In a dry husky cough, arising from incipient tubercles of the lungs, before they have advanced to suppuration, next to occasional bleedings, temperance, and cooling medicines, the greatest benefit is found to arise from large scapulary issues*, assisted by a vegetable diet and asses milk.

* Mr. Mudge mentions a cure performed by an issue of between two and three inches diameter, and which afterwards held between forty and fifty peas.

In older and more stubborn coughs, or in the first stage of a consumption, when the patient complains of pains of the side, constriction at the breast, or of hot and restless nights, the cure is to be attempted by small, but repeated bleedings, issues, or setons, with a low and cooling diet. In particular, a seton put into the side, upon the part most affected, is highly advantageous.

There can be very little hope of performing a cure when the patient is naturally weak, or scrophulous, or has been long in a decay.

In the advanced state of a consumption, there are two sorts of cough; one from the lungs, and the other caused by a thin rheum falling upon the fauces and trachea. The former can cease only with the original disease, the cure of which must be almost entirely the work of nature; but the latter may be palliated by in-craffants.

When from a weakness of the habit a consumption is threatened, the bark is of great advantage.

INFLAMMATION of the MEDIASTINUM, STOMACH, and LIVER.

Some peculiar symptoms are ascribed to those disorders respectively; such as in the inflammation of the mediastinum, the risus Sardonius; in that of the stomach, an incessant vomiting; and in the inflammation of the liver, a hiccup. But the limits within which those symptoms may prevail, seem not to be defined with any degree of precision; and such is the mutual sympathy between those several parts, that generally a violent affection of any one of them is, more or less, propagated to the others. We must therefore be content with drawing our diagnostic from the apparent seat of the disorder, and the general signs of inflammation with which it is accompanied.

In all those inflammations large bleeding is necessary, and ought to be repeated according
to

to the urgency of the symptoms. Emollient clysters should be frequently administered, and a large blister be applied as near as possible to the part affected. If the stomach can retain any medicines, antiphlogistic remedies are to be given.

COLIC.

The colic is a pain arising either from a distention, or spasmodic constriction of the intestines, and is generally distinguished into two kinds, viz. the bilious, and flatulent.

The bilious colic is most frequent in summer. It commonly begins with a vomiting of yellow, greenish matter, of a bitterish taste. Sometimes the pain is confined to the region of the navel, but at other times extends all over the belly. The urinary discharge is either suppressed, or greatly diminished. The disease proceeds with thirst, fever, and costiveness, sometimes terminating in the iliac passion; and

is

is frequently attended with a hoarseness thro' the whole of its progress.

In the flatulent colic, which is attended with borborygmi, or a grumbling of the bowels, the pain is wandering, and abates when the air is set free. When this complaint is violent it induces vomiting, and symptoms which resemble the gravel; in which circumstance it acquires the name of the stone colic. It may however be distinguished from the gravel by this criterion, that the pain of the colic increases after eating, whereas in the gravel it always abates; besides that in the former there is no sediment in the urine.

In all colics, where the pain is violent, and accompanied with a fulness of the pulse, blood-letting is necessary. The stomach may then be washed with chamomile tea; and an emollient clyster be afterwards administered; to the latter of which, if the colic be flatulent, some carminative ought to be joined.

The

The next object of attention is to procure a passage downwards*.

Flannel cloths, wrung out of a decoction of chamomile flowers and juniper berries, and applied warm to the belly, are frequently of great benefit.

COLICA PICTONUM, or COLIC of POITOU,

This disease is known also by the name of the endemial colic of Devonshire, and, according to the most general opinion, is occasioned by lead being introduced into the body. It begins with a sensation of weight or pain at the pit of the stomach, attended with loss of appetite, yellowness in the countenance, a slight

* For this purpose a purge and opiate are advantageously joined together; a grain of the extractum Thebaicum being added to the full dose of the cathartic.

degree of sickness, and costiveness. The pain gradually increasing, soon becomes violent and continual. The sickness advances nearly in the same proportion, and by the second day of the disease, reachings are succeeded by frequent vomitings of a very acrid slime, and porraceous bile. Sometimes the pain will descend to the region of the navel, and shoot thence to each side with extreme violence. It will also dart into the back and loins; and passing down to the bladder, in the direction of the ureters, will resemble a fit of the stone. Sometimes it shoots into the scrotum, groins, thighs, and legs; or mounting into the breast, shoulders, or arms, resembles a violent fit of the rheumatism; always leaving so great a degree of soreness in the external muscles, that the weight of the bed-cloaths, or the slightest touch of the finger, is painful.

This disorder is not preceded by chillness, nor often attended with fever at the beginning. Towards the end of the disease there is generally

rally a pain round the edges of the feet, and at the end of all the toes, which are frequently red and swollen, and in appearance gouty.

Though the disorder be moderate, it can seldom be removed in less than four, five, or six days, and it will sometimes require even a longer period; but if it is neglected, ill treated, or violent, it will last weeks, or even months, with now and then a truce for a few days, and terminates at last in a peculiar species of palsy of the upper extremities; or deafness, blindness, delirium, and, epileptic fits coming on, in death.

As soon as the complaint is ascertained, the patient should be ordered to drink half a pint of warm chamomile tea, which will presently be vomited up, with some of the acrid contents of the stomach. After the stomach has been washed in this manner two or three times, and some little relief has thence been procured, twenty drops of tinctura Thebaica in an ounce of water, or a grain of opium in a pill, should be

be directed to be taken immediately, and to be repeated every two or three hours, till the pain is abated, or the patient is laid asleep. If he wakes some hours after, complaining of pain and sickness, as he probably will, the chamomile-tea and opium must be repeated as before.

After twenty-four hours treatment in this manner, the pain will sometimes be considerably abated, or a short truce will succeed, and the patient find himself disposed to eat. This interval should be employed in giving some proper sustenance, which ought not to be stronger than weak chicken broth or panada, nor should it be much in quantity; for if the stomach is oppressed, the sickness will return the sooner, and all the symptoms will be aggravated. But whether any food is taken or no, the colic will return, and the same method of cure must be pursued from day to day, not only till the pain is removed, but till the tension of the abdomen subsides, and such symptoms appear as shew that the disease is near its termination.

These

These are not to be expected till the third, fourth, or fifth day from the beginning of the cure, sometimes much later. Purging medicines should now be given; and in this state of the disease, the gentlest have been found the most efficacious. Stools may be procured with more ease, and in less time, by two drachms of cathartic salt dissolved in warm water, or infusion of senna, and taken every two hours, than by any drastic purge whatever *.

In general, the purging must be continued till the bowels are emptied, and the patient is free from all uneasiness in them.

If, after the purging, the pain returns to the region of the navel, or the pit of the stomach,

* Instead of the cathartic salt, Dr. Warren has sometimes given a drachm of cream of tartar dissolved in water, as often, and now and then the oleum Ricini. An ounce of this oil, with two ounces of water, and about half the yolk of an egg, makes a draught that may be taken tolerably well, and need not be repeated so often as the other purgatives; but it seems more apt to be vomited up than the other medicines.

purging

purging medicines must be laid aside, and recourse be had again to opium. At the end of a day or two, the bowels will discharge, with relief, as large a quantity of fæces as before. But if the purging is continued, notwithstanding the return of the pain, the symptoms will be aggravated, and the disorder protracted.

If the pain be not removed by the quantity of laudanum above mentioned, the dose must be increased. Two grains of opium have been given with success three times in six hours. But in general, if a moderate dose by the mouth should not suffice, a clyster of four ounces of oil of olives, and forty drops of tinctura Thebaica should be injected; which will sometimes prove more effectual than twice the quantity by the mouth; and, if the pain return, the clyster ought to be repeated.

No great dependence is here to be laid upon external applications; and the soreness of the muscles renders them frequently very inconvenient.

When this disorder is removed, costiveness is very apt to succeed; and so long as it lasts,

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whether

whether it be months or years, the patient is in danger of a relapse. To prevent this effect, the daily use of the cathartic salt, or cream of tartar, as a laxative, should be prescribed. When those means have failed to remove the costiveness, great benefit has been experienced from the use of the Bath waters; and even when the bowels have not particularly wanted their assistance, they seemed to recruit the debilitated patient more than any other means.

For the prevention of this colic in lead miners, it is advisable for them always to take a glass of salad oil, and a little brandy, fasting, before they go to work.

INFLAM-

INFLAMMATION of the BOWELS, or ILIAC PASSION.

This disease is generally attended with a high fever*, tension and pain of the bowels, obstinate costiveness, an oppression at the stomach, and sometimes a total inversion of the peristaltic motion of the intestines.

Venæsection must here be freely performed, and repeated as long as the violence of the symptoms remains, or the patient's strength will permit. Immediately afterwards a large

* There are some cases of the Ileus in which the fever is scarcely perceptible, the patient feels little pain, there is no vomiting, and the costiveness is not extreme. In such circumstances, the only pre-fages of danger are to be taken from the tension of the belly, and a dull pain upon pressing it; from the lowness and inequality of the pulse, and from a change in the countenance.

blister should be applied over the part of the belly chiefly affected.

Next to bleeding, the principal part of the cure depends upon opening the body; which is found to be best effected by purges of the lenient kind*; their operation being at the same time assisted by loosening clysters†.

* R Electar. lenitiv. ℥℥.

Flor. sulphur. ℥ii.

Cremor tartar. ℥i.

Syr. commun. q. s. f. electarium.

The size of a nutmeg of this electary may be taken every hour.

For the same purpose, the sal catharticus amarus has been used in the following manner with great advantage.

Two ounces of the salt being dissolved in a pint of water, the patient is to take two spoonfuls every half hour, or one spoonful at shorter intervals, as long as the stomach will bear it, or till two motions have been procured. Although this medicine has a disagreeable taste, it is remarked that the stomach will often retain it when more grateful liquors are rejected.

† R Decocti commun. pro clystere ℥x. electarii lenitiv. ol. olivar. ana ℥ii. m.

When

When the stomach is so much disordered as to throw up the laxatives, it may then be proper to join some opium to a stimulating purge †.

After procuring stools, the method of cure consists in giving laudanum at bed-time; and in the mornings, as much of the solution, or of some other laxative, as is sufficient to open the body freely till the hazard of a relapse is past.

For restraining the vomiting, the medicine chiefly recommended is the saline draughts, taken in the act of effervescence, and frequently repeated.

† R Extracti cathartic. gr. xxv. extracti Thebaic. gr. iß. Mercurii dulc. sublim. gr. v. m. f. pilulæ x.

Those pills are for one dose, to be taken after vomiting, when the patient complains least of sickness. The smaller the pills are, they will have the better chance for being retained. About twelve hours afterwards the operation of the purge may be promoted by the solution of the salt; and in a few hours more, still continuing the solution, the clyster should be repeated.

CHOLERA MORBUS.

This disease consists in a discharge of bile both upwards and downwards, accompanied with sharp pains, and sometimes an inflation of the belly, a quick and unequal pulse, cold sweats, and a coldness of the extremities.

The cure consists in plentifully diluting the vitiated humours in the first passages with some demulcent liquor, such as chicken broth, and encouraging their discharge. If, notwithstanding the peccant humours appear to be evacuated, the vomiting should continue, it may sometimes be restrained by drinking water, in which oat-bread, toasted brown, has been infused. But if this fails, we must proceed to the use of opiates, which may be safely administered, after the first passages have been cleansed.

DIARRHOEA.

When a diarrhoea happens in consequence of an accumulation of vitiated humours in the first passages, it ought not to be stopt before they have been discharged; neither should it be prematurely restrained when it is the consequence of some previous indisposition. But if it proves so violent, or continues so long as to weaken the patient, we may then proceed to check it by opiate and restraining medicines; first administering some rhubarb, and, if there be any complaint at the stomach, a gentle vomit.

The diet should consist of rice, sago, &c. seasoned with cinnamon or mace; and for common drink, the patient may use decoctum album.

When the diarrhoea proceeds from catching cold, the perspiration ought to be immediately restored; when from worms, anthelmintics should be administered; and in general, the

method of cure be adapted to the particular cause of irritation.

DYSENTERY.

Besides alternate sensations of heat and cold, lassitude, loss of appetite, and other feverish symptoms, the pathognomonic signs of a dysentery are a disorder at the stomach, and wind in the bowels; small, but frequent stools of a slimy and frothy matter, a tenesmus and gripes. Blood mixed with the fæces is a common, but not a constant symptom, and may exist without a dysentery. An ulceration of the bowels is accidental, and not essential to the disease.

When the disorder is recent, the patient's strength not much impaired, and there is a fullness of blood, with a feverishness, moderate venæsection may be used with advantage.

The first passages are afterwards to be cleared by small doses of ipecacuanhæ, with a grain of emetic

emetic tartar, and by purgatives *; after the latter of which may be given an opiate.

As long as the gripes (the essential symptom of the disease) continue, it is necessary to use laxatives, and such medicines as sheathe the bowels against the acrimony of the humours †.

In

* R Pulv. rhabarbar. gr. xxv.
Calomelanos gr. v. m.

or,

R Mannæ ℥ β. vitelli ovi ℥ i; contritis simul,
in mortario lapideo, admisce paulatim olei
olivar. ℥ vi. & falis cathartic. amar. (aq.
puræ ℥ iii. soluti) ℥ i. f. haustus.

† This intention may be answered by food of a mucilaginous quality, and by giving, for drink, a decoction of starch with gum Arabic; a pint of the liquor containing three drachms of starch and half an ounce of the gum; and being seasoned with some simple cinnamon water and sugar.

For the same intention a solution of wax, made in the following manner, has been successfully used.

R Cerae flavæ rase ℥ i β. Saporis Hispan. duri rasi
℥ i. Aquæ ℥ i liquecant leni igne, & assidue
agitantur donec in unum coeant; dein af-
funde

In a bad state of the dysentery, when the mouth and alimentary canal are threatened with aphthæ, a decoction of the bark, with some diascordium, is advisable.

For mitigating the gripes, and expelling the wind, an infusion of camomile flowers is beneficial; as is likewise a fomentation made of the common herbs, with the addition of some spirits, applied to the belly.

When the patient complains of acidities in the stomach, and of a heart-burn, a few spoonfuls of the julepum e creta may be given occasionally, to which, if the gripes and incessant motions require some palliative, an opiate may be joined *.

In

funde materiam in mortarium lapideum, eique paulatim admisce aq. puræ ℥ viii. aquæ nucis moschat. ℥ i. & sacchar. alb. quod satis sit ad gratum saporem.

This quantity of the solution is ordered to be consumed in the day.

* R Theriac. Andromachi ℥ i.

Pulv. rhabarbar. ℥ β. m. & formentur in pil. xviii. quarum capiat æger sex bis vel ter in die.

R Extract.

In the last stage of the disease, when the patient is kept low by a tenesmus, and a looseness frequently returns on account of the weak state of the bowels, astringent remedies are to be used.

Through the whole course of the disease, the diet ought to consist of milk, sago, salep, and the farinaceous aliments, without any animal food.

R Extract. ligni Campechensis ℥iii. solve in aq. cinnamomi spirituof. ℥i℥. admisce aq. fontanæ ℥vii. & tincturæ Japonicæ ℥ii.

Of this the patient may take two spoonfuls once in four or five hours, and sometimes also an opiate at bed-time.

In old and obstinate diarrhœas, and in dysenteries not yielding to the common methods, along with the above decoction, a bolus consisting of a scruple of philonium Londinense and two grains of ipecacuanha, has been given every night with great success.

When only a looseness remains after the dysentery, a decoction of simaruba has been used with good effects.

R Corticis rad. simarubæ ℥ii. vel iii. coque ex aq. fontanæ libiss. ad ℥i. & cola.

This quantity may be used in the day at several times.

Clysters

Clysters made of starch, or fat mutton broth, from four to eight ounces, according as a smaller or larger quantity can be retained, with the addition of tinctura Thebaica, are of great advantage for abating the irritation in the rectum; but we are frequently obliged to desist from them on account of the tenderness of the parts.

JAUNDICE, and STONE in the GALL-BLADDER.

The jaundice is known from the yellowness of the countenance, particularly the white of the eyes; and is generally cured by emetics and purgatives, with the use of the lixivial salts.

The existence of a stone in the gall-bladder, or biliary ducts, may be suspected from a fixt pain in the region of the liver, which is frequently, but not always, succeeded by the jaundice.

In this complaint blood-letting is supposed to be of little use, and may therefore be omitted, as occasioning an unnecessary waste of strength.

The

The pain can only be mitigated by opium, which ought therefore to be given in a large dose, and frequently repeated.

When the patient has not naturally a vomiting, it is often found of advantage, as soon as the intenseness of the pain is alleviated, to give an emetic; the concussion produced by which may either force the stone back into the cystis, or forward into the duodenum, and thereby effect either a temporary relief, or a permanent cure. But to excite a vomiting being much more easy than to stop it, in this complaint, it is proper to give an opiate after a moderate number of strains has been procured.

Similar good effects may be expected from purging medicines, by their increasing the natural motion of the intestines, and soliciting a greater flow of bile. The purges best adapted to this purpose are those which act with the most ease, and may be continued with the greatest safety; such as sea-water, the water of many purging springs, and also many of the neutral salts, dissolved either in water, or, if it
can

can be borne, in a weak infusion of some bitter vegetable substance. These may be taken for several months, either every day, or every other day, without palling the appetite, or exhausting the strength or spirits.

The jaundice of infants soon yields to a few purging medicines.

If it happens that the jaundice is of itself attended with a purging, there may be nothing farther necessary, than by gentle means to prevent its being excessive, and at the same time to strengthen the stomach by proper bit-
ters.

The itching is often so extremely troublesome, as to require opium; without the help of which it would be impossible to procure any ease, or sleep.

A pain of the right shoul-
der is common in diseases of the liver.

In a simple jaundice, though there be no apparent disorder of the liver, or other viscera, a hiccup will sometimes supervene, but without denoting any present or future mischief.

In

In this disease, likewise, strong fits of shivering sometimes happen, which will continue during an hour, and return every day, for two or three times, without being followed by any other complaint.

Those who have once had this distemper are very liable to returns of it; not only because other gall-stones are likely to be generated by the same causes which formed the first, but because a fit of the jaundice is frequently terminated, not by the passing of the stone into the duodenum, but by its falling back into the cystis; at its passing out of which it occasions a fresh fit.

It is not uncommon in this malady, to have all solid food taste bitter; and sometimes, but less frequently, the same is true of liquids.

The milk of icteric women, who suckle children, is not tainted with the bile, either in its colour or taste.

T Y M P A N I T E S.

This disorder, arising generally from a flatulent distension of the colon, sometimes succeeds the unseasonable use of opiates in the dysentery, or of the bark in intermittents.

If the disorder be accompanied with any degree of fever, it is proper to begin the cure with bleeding, and the saline draughts; but if no fever attend, the species aromaticæ, in chamomile tea, may be taken to the quantity of some cupfuls in the day.

Whether with or without fever, it is proper to give daily some grains of rhubarb; which, in the former case, may be taken with the saline draughts, or, in the latter, at bed-time.

All strong purging medicines, and carminatives without laxatives, are hurtful.

When the swelling subsides, if the patient has no symptoms of fever, the tone of the
bowels

bowels should be restored by strengthening remedies, without omitting the occasional repetition of rhubarb.

STONE, or GRAVEL in the KIDNEYS, or URETERS.

This disorder is accompanied with a pain in the region of the loins, frequently with vomiting, and sometimes with bloody urine.

If the patient be plethoric, or a feverishness attends, blood-letting is necessary; after which emollient injections should be frequently given. The femicupium, or warm bath, is also of great advantage.

The internal remedies are oily, lubricating medicines*, and opiates when the pain is violent.

* An infusion or decoction of althæa root, sweetened with honey, has been taken with great advantage.

S T R A N G U R Y.

The strangury may proceed from a variety of causes, such as a stone in the bladder, an inflammation, or tumor in the neck of the bladder, or in the urethra, an acrimony of urine, &c. In prosecuting the cure, regard must therefore be had to the particular cause.

H E A D - A C H.

The cause of this disorder may be either in the head or the stomach. When the former is the case, the complaint generally arises from cold, and is to be cured by promoting perspiration, and making a derivation from the part affected. If the pain be periodical, it may generally be removed by the bark; but if continual,
and

and of long standing, nervous medicines will often succeed, unless the disorder arise from the lues venerea; when it can be cured only by extirpating the original disease. If the pain be thought to proceed from the stomach, an emetic should be administered; and afterwards, if digestion be weak, stomachic medicines.

HEMICRANIA.

The hemicrania, as its name imports, consists in a pain of one side of the head, frequently affecting the eyes with tenderness and inflammation. During the paroxysm, the pain is for the most part exceedingly violent, but has generally periodical intermissions.

In this disorder, it has been observed that blood-letting frequently gave relief in spring, but never in autumn. A vomit always moderated the succeeding fit, but a purge increased it, unless an anodyne was given after. The

bark has sometimes proved advantageous; as has likewise an infusion of chamomile flowers, with elixir of vitriol. Leeches on the temples, and blisters behind the ears, frequently afford relief*.

V E R T I G O.

In this complaint, which is attended with a dimness of sight, and commonly a general weakness, all objects appear to move in a circular direction.

* The following electary has succeeded in a great number of cases; care being taken to vary the ingredients, or the proportion of them, according to the season of the year, the age, habit, and other circumstances of the patient.

R Rad. valerian. sylv. ℥i. cort. Peruvian. opt.
 ℥℥. Theriacæ ℥ii. Salis Absynth. ℥i.
 Rhei electi ℥i. Syr. croci q. s. f. Electa-
 rium.

If

If the patient be plethoric, it is proper to bleed in the jugular, or at least to cup, with scarification, between the shoulders. A vomit ought then to be given, and afterwards a dose of *tinctura sacra*.

Blisters at the same time ought not to be omitted.

In general, all nervous medicines, and the Peruvian bark, are of advantage in this disease.

HYDROCEPHALUS INTERNUS, or DROPSY of the BRAIN.

This disorder is most incident to children, though it has sometimes been observed in adults. Many of the symptoms are so common to worm-cases, teething, and other irritating causes, that it is difficult to fix upon any which particularly characterise the disease. The most peculiar seem to be the pains in the limbs, with sickness and incessant head-ach,

which, though frequent in other diseases of children, are neither so uniformly nor so constantly attendant as in this. Another circumstance observed to be familiar, if not peculiar to this distemper, is, that the patients are not only costive, but it is with the greatest difficulty that stools can be procured. These are generally of a very dark greenish colour, with an oiliness, or a glassy bile, rather than the slime which accompanies worms; and they are for the most part extremely offensive. In complaints arising from worms, and in dentition, spasms are more frequent than in this disorder.

When the hydrocephalus internus proceeds from the rupture of a lymphatic vessel in the brain, which some suppose to be the proximate cause of the disease, it cannot admit of a cure. But as its symptoms are so similar to those excited by worms, in many cases, and it may therefore often not be an idiopathic, but a symptomatic disorder, the most effectual means of alleviating the complaint will be to make use of anthelmintic medicines, and such other remedies

remedies as may free the bowels from any irritating cause *.

Besides those remedies, anthelmintics may be administered in clysters †. Small doses of anodynes may also be given occasionally. All heating medicines, however, seem to increase the disease, as does also much warmth in the room.

* For this purpose three or four grains of calomel, or more, according to the age and habit of body of the patient, with rhubarb, and the pulvis e scammon. comp. may be given. If the stomach appears to be loaded, one fourth, or one half of a grain of tartar emetic may be joined with it, and the stomach be washed with any suitable liquor.

† These may consist of aloes boiled in milk; or of a decoction of sem. fanton. with thirty or forty drops of ol. terebinthinæ.

If the disorder actually proceeds from worms, it is usually soon abated by this course, and in the end effectually cured; but if the symptoms still continue, there is room for an unfavourable prognostic.

LOCKED JAW.

The locked jaw is most frequent in hot climates, where it is often the consequence of amputation, or sometimes even of a slight wound. It consists in a violent spasm of the muscles of the jaw, and is cured principally by large doses of opium, with which musk is sometimes joined, anodyne embrocations, and the warm bath.

The drawing of electrical sparks from the adjacent parts has been found of great advantage in this disease*.

A P O-

* Of near affinity to the locked jaw are the two other spasmodic disorders, the opisthotonos and tetanus; in which, besides opiates and the warm bath, clysters prepared with a decoction of chamomile flowers, mallows, &c. and a large proportion of oil, ought to be frequently injected. A bladder half filled with warm water, and tied close, should always be kept on the pit of the stomach, when the patient

A P O P L E X Y.

An apoplexy consists in a sudden abolition of all sense and motion, except of the heart and lungs. The fit is commonly preceded by a dizziness or head-ach. If the person be of a sanguine habit, the face becomes red, the eyes swell and sparkle; the breathing is difficult, accompanied with a stertor; the pulse at first beats quick and strong, and afterwards becomes languid and slow. There is often an involuntary discharge

patient is in bed; and the rigid parts, so far as they can be come at, should frequently be bathed with warm oil of mucilages, to which is added some opium, with gentle and continued friction.

During the severity of the disease, the sick may drink a decoction of figs, liquorice, and fennel-seeds, sage tea, very weak wine whey, or any such mild diaphoretic liquid; and for nourishment may be given thin gruel, panada, or weak broth.

by

by stool or urine, and sometimes the patient foams at the mouth.

This disorder, according to the particular constitution of the person whom it attacks, is distinguished into three species, viz. the sanguineous, the pituitous, and the spasmodic. The first is occasioned by the blood compressing the brain, or by a rupture of a vessel; the second by a collection of pituitous or serous humours in the ventricles and membranes of the brain; and the last from spasmodic constriction.

In this dangerous disorder the speediest relief is necessary, but the means of removing the oppression of the brain are different in the sanguineous and serous apoplexy; the former requiring large venæsection, which may first be performed in the arm, and afterwards in the jugular; but the latter not admitting of this evacuation, or at least in a moderate degree. Cupping, however, which is also proper in the sanguineous, may sometimes be useful in the serous kind.

A stimulating clyster should then be given, and afterwards a brisk vomit.

Blisters also are highly useful in the ferous apoplexy.

For preventing a return of the disorder, the person ought to avoid intemperance, particularly a heavy meal at night. A seton between the shoulders is a beneficial prophylactic; as is likewise, in gross constitutions, the free use of horseradish, and mustard seed.

EPILEPSY.

The epilepsy is attended with a deprivation of sense, and with a violent contraction or agitation of all, or many parts of the body. Sometimes the disorder attacks suddenly, without any previous sign of its approach; but for the most part it is preceded by a paleness of the countenance, a languid pulse, head-ach, stupor, and drowsiness. Besides violent distortions the fit is accompanied with a gnashing of the teeth, foaming

foaming at the mouth, and often with an involuntary discharge by stool or urine.

If the pulse be full the patient ought to be bled. A vomit should afterwards be given, and the belly kept open.

As the disorder may proceed from a variety of causes, such as worms, a suppression of the menstrual discharge, a fright, hard drinking, and other errors in the non-naturals, the cure must be prosecuted according to the particular indication. In general, however, nervous medicines, and the Peruvian bark, are serviceable.

HYSTERIC PASSION, and HYPOCHONDRIAC DISEASE.

This disease, which proceeds from a sensibility of the nervous system, is so exceedingly complex, so anomalous in its appearances, and so various in different persons, as hardly to be comprehended under any precise description. Its characteristic signs are principally limpid urine, the sense of suffocation, and a pain in the back; with a preceding coldness in the external parts and a great lowness of spirits, in those who are subject to it.

The hysteric passion, though it sometimes resembles the syncope, yet differs from it in several circumstances. One is, that the face is redder and more tumid in the hysteric passion than in the syncope; another, that the cessation of the pulse is greater and more entire in the former than in the latter; and a third, that the
cessation

cessation of the pulse is also longer in the hysteric passion than in the syncope.

There is yet a more obvious difference between the hysteric paroxysm and apoplexy. In the latter the pulse and respiration do not cease; but they either really or apparently cease in a violent hysteric fit.

The hysteric paroxysm may be distinguished from the epilepsy by the same criterion, as it may likewise by another circumstance, which is, that in the epilepsy, the patient foams at the mouth; an accident which is never observed in the former complaint.

In an hysteric paroxysm, when the convulsive motions are violent, and the person of a plethoric constitution, we ought immediately to draw blood.

Fœtid medicines, and volatile salts, should be applied to the nostrils, either in a liquid or solid form.

If the paroxysm be not arrived at such a height that the patient is rendered incapable of taking medicines by the mouth, antihysteric,

teric remedies ought to be administered internally.

All antihysterical medicines are not observed to be equally successful; for sometimes one, and sometimes another, will be found most advantageous, according to the disposition of the nerves of the stomach at the time*.

Besides the medicines properly termed antihysterical, we ought to employ other remedies, adapted to the particular cause of the paroxysm†.

To

* This is so peculiar in some cases, that a table spoonful of the juice of lemons alone has repeatedly assuaged a palpitation of the heart, after many of the medicines, denominated antihysterical, had been prescribed without effect.

† The following examples may serve to illustrate this precept.—When hysterical complaints are owing to a diminution or suppression of some accustomed evacuation, that discharge ought to be promoted or recalled.—When inanition is the cause of hysterical complaints, as often happens after an immoderate flux of the menses, or lochia, the cure, after restraining those evacuations, consists in replenishing the vessels with nourishing aliments of easy digestion.—If
the

To prevent the return of the hysteric paroxysm, the constitution is to be strengthened by the use of the bark, chalybeates, cold bathing, and proper exercise.

The hypochondriac disease in men is attended with nearly the same symptoms as the hysteric passion in women, and is to be cured in the same manner.

the cause of hysteric symptoms be phlegm in the stomach, a vomit is the speediest remedy. — When there appears to be a considerable degree of acidity in the stomach, the proper remedy is some fixt alkaline salt, or absorbent powder. — When worms excite hysteric disorders, anthelmintic medicines should be administered, along with other palliative remedies.

OBSTRUCTIONS of the MENSES.

When the obstruction is owing to a deficiency of blood, which may be known from tedious diseases or profuse evacuations having preceded, the best emmenagogues are those medicines which strengthen digestion, such as the bark, bitters, and steel, with a nourishing diet, and proper exercise.

When, as frequently happens, the complaint proceeds from a plethora oppressing the vessels of the uterus, the indications of cure are to diminish the quantity of blood, by venæsection *, and gentle purgatives.

If the obstruction proceed from neither of those causes, the most approved medicines are the fetid and resinous gums.

The vapour of warm (not too hot) water, or

* Blood-letting is most advantageously performed in the veins of the foot or ankle.

of an emollient decoction, received into the vagina, and used for half an hour at a time, is highly beneficial; as are also emollient fomentations, or flannels wrung out of them, applied warm to the hypogastric region.

Among the mechanical methods of promoting the menstrual discharge, the application of cupping-glasses to the haunches and thighs, and frictions to the lower extremities, frequently produce good effects; but electricity, topically used, is of the greatest advantage.

CHLOROSIS, or GREEN-SICKNESS.

The chlorosis is a pituitous cachexy in young women, accompanied with a suppression of the menstrual discharge. If the disease be in its infancy, and has arisen from a stoppage of the catamenia, bleeding, to the quantity of six or eight ounces, is proper, at the beginning of the
cure,

cure, to promote a free circulation. But if the patient be weak, venæsection must be omitted.

At whatever stage of the disease the cure is begun, it is necessary to exhibit a gentle emetic, and afterwards purgatives, both to cleanse the alimentary canal, and discharge the phlegmatic humors*.

IMMODERATE FLUX of the MENSES.

When a woman is seized with this complaint, she ought immediately to be put to bed, and desired to lie in a supine posture, with her limbs extended; her attendants at

* The best purgatives are those of the warm and aloetic kind, joined with gum ammoniac, or other such medicines, and given as alteratives. Either along with those, if the patient be not plethoric, or otherwise after the quantity of humors has been diminished by the operation, we ought to prescribe chalybeates, which, in all cachectic disorders, are of admirable efficacy.

the same time keeping her as quiet as possible.

When the hæmorrhage seems to be principally excited either by a redundancy or rarefaction of the fluids, or a spasmodic affection of the vascular system, bleeding is necessary; the quantity and repetition of it being regulated by the strength of the patient, the state of the pulse, and the urgency of the symptoms.

Cathartics are never indicated, unless when the patient complains either of gripes or a looseness; but even in those circumstances they ought to be of the mildest kind.

Upon the same principle, an emetic is advisable only in case of sickness, nausea, or vomiting; which symptoms may evince the existence of some irritating matter in the stomach. But neither purgatives nor emetics ought to be administered, when there is any pain, or perceptible tension of the uterus.

The best remedies are the pulvis stypticus, and tinctura rosarum; with which deserves to be mentioned the Peruvian bark.

When

When the plethora has been diminished either by venæsection or a continuance of the discharge; or the rarefaction has been allayed by cooling and condensing remedies, opiates have a beneficial effect in the conclusion of the cure.

A fomentation of vinegar, or vinegar mixt with water, used cold, and applied by means of linen cloths or flannel to the hypogastric region, and round the loins, if it can be done without incommoding the patient, is often highly advantageous.

FLUOR ALBUS, or WHITES.

When the fluor albus has been occasioned by an obstruction of the menstrual discharge, or any external injury, blood-letting is proper at the beginning, in order to remove the distension of the uterine vessels, and facilitate the circulation; but if the disease has been owing

to any other cause, or the constitution is weak, phlebotomy must be omitted.

The medicinal course may be commenced by a gentle emetic, if the stomach seem to be loaded with phlegm.

The serous humors are to be diminished by stomachic purgatives; and afterwards the constitution to be strengthened by the bark and chalybeates.

OBSTRUCTION of the LOCHIA.

In plethoric women, or wherever the pulse is full, bleeding ought to be performed immediately, and is generally more requisite the sooner the obstruction has taken place. The feet appear to be the most suitable parts for phlebotomy in this case.

When the obstruction is not attended with diarrhœa, we ought next to prescribe a clyster, which should consist of emollient and emme-

emmenagogic, rather than of purgative materials.

When a diarrhœa supervenes, great caution is requisite in avoiding to check it too suddenly. Should it, however, be so violent, or continue so long, as to weaken the patient, it must be restrained; but not without the previous administration of rhubarb, along with which a few grains of some mild emmenagogue may be given.

Emollient fomentations to the abdomen are frequently prescribed with good effect.

The proper remedies in obstructions of the lochia, are myrrh, borax, and such like emmenagogue medicines, with some mild antihysterical julep; to which, when any signs of inflammation appear, a little nitre may be added.

IMMODERATE FLUX of the LOCHIA.

When the disorder proceeds from too great a laxity of the uterine vessels, the remedies ought to be astringents; with which, if the patient appear to be scorbutic, or the flux betray any thing of a fetid smell, the Peruvian bark should be joined.

If the flux seem to proceed from an acrimony of the fluids, which is often a concomitant cause of the disorder, especially when the patient has not been previously subject to immoderate discharges from the uterus, opiates ought to be administered from time to time. For though it be generally allowed that they diminish the contractile power of the solids, yet nothing more effectually restrains those discharges which proceed from local irritation; and their relaxing quality may be counteracted, by prescribing along with them astringent and gentle cordial medicines.

The

The external applications are the same as in immoderate discharges of the catamenia.

CONVULSIONS in CHILD-BED WOMEN.

If the convulsions proceed from a premature and sudden stoppage of the lochia, the return of that flux is to be solicited by the methods above mentioned.

When the disorder is occasioned by a violent extraction of the placenta, and a consequent flooding, astringent injections into the uterus ought to be immediately administered.

If the vessels of the uterus have been only slightly injured, and no considerable hæmorrhage ensues, the topical applications suitable are anodyne injections.

When a retention of the placenta, or a collection of grumous blood, is supposed to be the cause of the convulsions, those extraneous substances

substances ought to be gently extracted with the hand. The discharge of the former may also be sometimes assisted by sternutatories, and of the latter by detergent injections.

In all convulsions, where the patient is plethoric, those only excepted which are the consequence of immoderate evacuation, bleeding is advisable, not only for relaxing the vessels of the uterus, and thereby diminishing their irritability, but for preventing the injurious effects which might arise from the violence of the convulsive motions. Antiepileptic medicines and opium are likewise to be prescribed; the latter of which is superior to every other remedy, when the disorder is caused by irritation*.

* In using opium for this intention, however, it ought rather to be given in small quantities, and repeated occasionally, than administered in a large dose at once; as when administered with too liberal a hand, it is sometimes productive of the same disorder.

AFTER-PAINS.

Soon after delivery, women are generally seized with considerable pain in their loins, groins, and lower part of the abdomen, occasioned by the late distension of the ligaments of the uterus, and which are much exasperated by an obstruction of the lochia.

Those pains may be relieved, and generally even prevented, by giving, soon after delivery, oleaginous medicines, such as the oil of sweet almonds and spermaceti, to which some opiate, if requisite, may be added *.

* A common medicine for this purpose is a drachm. of spermaceti, with an equal quantity of theriac Andromachi given occasionally, and washed down with a little warm wine, or any gentle cordial.

A S T H M A.

The asthma is distinguished into two kinds, viz. the moist or pituitous, and the dry or nervous asthma. The latter is occasioned by a spasmodic affection of the lungs; but the former by pituitous matter occupying their cavity.

In the dry asthma, the best remedies are nervous medicines, such as assafoetida, castor, salt or spirit of hartshorn, &c. Gum ammoniac and oxymel scilliticum are highly serviceable in both kinds.

Blisters and setons, continued, have afforded much benefit in this disease; and in either species of asthma, when a cough prevents rest, the elixir Paregoricum may be given at bedtime with great advantage.

Malt liquors ought to be avoided, and the body be kept open by clysters, or gentle laxatives.

R H E U M A T I S M.

If the rheumatism be accompanied with fever, venæsection is necessary, and when the blood is fizy, ought to be repeated a second or third time. A low diet in this case is proper; and costiveness should be prevented, either by frequent clysters or some mild laxative.

Blistering is serviceable in universal rheumatisms; and when the pain is confined to one part, it is among the most efficacious applications. But in the acute rheumatism, attended with swelling of the joints, leeches have been found preferable to all other local remedies; applying four or more upon that part where the inflammation and tumor were the greatest, and, when there was occasion, renewing the application daily, or at longer intervals.

When the fever has been diminished by blood-letting, and especially if the patient be brought low by that evacuation, the spirit of hartshorn has been given with great advantage,
in

in the quantity of about forty drops thrice a day.

In the chronic rheumatism, if the blood be fizy, moderate venæsection once in eight or ten days is advisable; as is likewise the application of leeches when the parts are inflamed. In this species of rheumatism the spirit of hartshorn is of particular advantage; and laxatives of gum guaiacum are highly beneficial *.

When evacuations cannot be continued longer on account of weakness, especially if the water break, or the patient complain of night sweats, recourse may be had to the bark.

When sharp nocturnal pains prevent all rest, the only refuge is opiates; but in other cases those remedies are better omitted.

Embrocations are sometimes serviceable in the chronic rheumatism.

* R Gum guaiac. ʒß. Vitell. ovi q. s. Aq. puræ ʒii. Sacchar. ʒß. m. f. Haustus sumendus omni nocte hora somni.

S C I A T I C A.

The common sciatica, if recent, is often treated successfully with the same remedies which are given in the rheumatism, according as it is attended with fever or not.

An efficacious remedy in this complaint, is a mixture of oil of turpentine and honey, in the proportion of two drachms of the former to an ounce of the latter. The dose is a teaspoonful, taken in bed, morning and evening, and drinking after it half a pint of any warm diluent.

Calomel, given with a diaphoretic draught, has also been used with great advantage*.

Obstinate

* R Calomel. levig. gr. x.

Conserv. rosar. q. s.

Fiant pilul. x. Quarum capiat i. omni nocte, superbibendo haustum sequent.

R Aq.

Obstinate sciatic and arthritic pains have been removed by soap, given from half an ounce to an ounce a-day, for some months.

R Aq. alexeter. simp. ℥i℥.

Spirituos. ℥i℥.

Vin. antimon. gut. xxx.

Tinct. Thebaic. gut. xxv.

Syr. simp. ℥i.

If the pain should not abate by the time this quantity is taken, the dose of calomel may be increased to two grains one night, one the next, and thus alternately. When, on the contrary, the pain abates, the anodyne and antimonial may be gradually lessened, or entirely disused.

P A L S Y.

In a palsy of any muscle, its motion and sensation are either diminished or totally obliterated. The disease is commonly distinguished into three species, according to the degree of its extent. When all the parts below the head are affected, it is called a paraplegia; when only one side, a hemiplegia; and when any particular limb, a paralysis of the part. In all those cases the nerves of the spine or medulla oblongata are affected; but in a palsy of the muscles of the face, the disorder has its origin in the brain.

When the patient is plethoric, blood-letting is necessary; after which vomits and stimulating clysters are to be administered, and warm nervous medicines prescribed. Externally, stimulating frictions should be used, with spirituous embrocations, and blisters; the two last of which are most advantageously applied to the spine.

Electricity is found to be of great advantage.

In a palsy of the tongue, besides external applications to the upper parts of the medulla oblongata, some warm stimulating liquid should be held in the mouth frequently, and afterwards be spit out.

The diet should be light, and moderately seasoned with aromatics.

A tremor may be considered as a partial palsy, and treated accordingly; omitting however the evacuations.

In every kind of paralytic complaint, Bath waters, under proper regulations, have been found of advantage.

DROPSY.

D R O P S Y.

The dropfy is divided into two kinds, the anasarca, and the ascites; in the former of which the water is contained in the cells of the membrana adiposa; and in the latter it occupies the cavity of the abdomen, where it is sometimes included in cysts.

In this disorder the urine is small in quantity, and the patient is troubled with thirst and difficulty of breathing.

The principal remedies are purgatives and diuretics; during the use of which we should endeavour to restore the tone of the solids, by interposing stomachic and strengthening medicines*.

* The purges most successful are the pulvis jalapii and calomel; but this evacuation ought to be cautiously used when the constitution is weak. In this case it is more advisable to employ diuretic medicines; among which the oxymel scilliticum is one of the best adapted. The lixivial salts are also used with great advantage.

G O U T.

The gout is distinguished into two kinds, the regular, and irregular; the former of which returns at stated periods, and gradually declines; but the latter is uncertain in its attacks, and extremely variable in its symptoms.

In a regular fit of the gout, the parts affected should be kept moderately warm, and the patient lie mostly in bed, till the paroxysm abate; using at the same time a slender diet.

No other disease seems to be so much exempted from the power of medicine, or to have so much incurred the suspicion of danger from every medicinal application. When the patient, however, is plethoric, and the symptoms of fever run very high, experience evinces that moderate bleeding may be used with safety and benefit; and also that when
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the fit is extremely violent, a gentle anodyne may be administered.

In the irregular flying gout, the body ought to be kept open with tincture of rhubarb, or tinctura sacra, and a perspirative regimen be used.

If the gout seize the head, the patient, if he be not blooded, ought at least to be cupped in the shoulders; applying at the same time blisters to the arms, legs, and ancles, and giving a large dose of tinctura sacra.

If it should attack the lungs, it must be treated as an inflammation of that part; using venæsection more cautiously, however; and not omitting to solicit the arthritic matter to the feet, by blisters to the ancles, or by sinapisms.

When the gout affects the stomach, recourse must immediately be had to warm medicines, such as rad. serpontar. Virginianæ, sal cornu cervi, &c. at the same time fomenting the stomach with warm wine, to which aromatics are joined.

For preventing the return of a paroxysm, the best means are temperance, daily moderate exercise, and the use of Bath waters.

DIABETES.

This disease consists in a too copious secretion of urine, which is sometimes found sweetish to the taste and smell. It is accompanied with great thirst, a weak and quick pulse, and a wasting of the body.

The remedies for this disorder are astringent medicines; in which class those chiefly recommended are the Peruvian bark *, and alum-poffet, drank as strong as the stomach will bear it.

* Good effects have been observed from adding to a dose of the decoction of the bark ten, fifteen, or twenty drops of the tincture of cantharides, with the view of restoring the debilitated tone of the renal glands.

The diet should be strengthening and balsamic, consisting of such food as jelly, sago, &c. The best drink is Bristol water, tincture of roses, or a decoction of cinnamon.

BLOODY URINE.

This disorder may be occasioned by too great a fulness of blood, or by gravel, or a stone in the urinary passages; in the two last of which cases it is usually accompanied with pain.

If the patient be plethoric, blood ought to be drawn from the arm; and afterwards some spoonfuls of a cooling emulsion, with gum Arabic, be taken frequently.

INCONTINENCE of URINE.

The remedies commonly administered for this disorder are astringent medicines; but it has lately been discovered that much better effects are produced by a blister to the os sacrum; the application of which has totally removed the complaint within twenty-four hours*.

* See some cases related by Dr. Dickson, in the Medical Observations and Inquiries.

SCURVY.

The scurvy is accompanied with lassitude, a difficulty of breathing, and an aversion to all exercise. The countenance is generally of a yellowish hue, the breath is offensive, and the gums, which become soft and putrid, are liable to bleed on the slightest pressure. Frequently also the patient bleeds at the nose, and has livid spots on different parts of the body.

The remedies for this disorder are all those which resist the putrefaction of the blood, and restore the strength of the solids; such as the juice of the herbs called antiscorbutic, an infusion of malt, the Peruvian bark, elixir of vitriol, &c.

During the cure, the patient ought to take occasionally some cream of tartar, or other gentle laxative, and use a light diet, which should consist chiefly of the vegetable and acedcent kind.

This

This disease, formerly so fatal to the navy on long voyages, is now found to be entirely prevented by a wholesome diet, the free use of fruits, and an attention to the cleanliness of the ship.

SCROFULOUS and GLANDULAR SWELLINGS.

The Peruvian bark has been administered in these complaints with great success. When the habit of body is relaxed, and the circulation weak, either from constitution or accident, the bark is a most efficacious medicine, and acts as a resolvent and discutient. It will not, however, succeed in all cases; but there are few in which a trial can be attended with much detriment. It has not been found to avail much where the bones are affected, nor where the scrofulous tumor is so situated as to be accompanied with much pain, as in the joints, or under the

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the membranous coverings of the muscles. The bark, instead of lessening, rather increases the fever that accompanies those circumstances; and if it does not really aggravate the complaint, it seems at least to accelerate the progress of the disease.

St. VITUS'S DANCE.

This disease is chiefly incident to children, particularly girls, and consists in a convulsive agitation of the members of the body. The head shakes, the tongue lolls out, and neither the arms nor legs can perform any voluntary motion with steadiness.

When the patient is plethoric, venæsection is proper. A vomit may then be given, and afterwards a dose of rhubarb, or some other purge; the latter of which is to be repeated every other, or every third day, for three or four times.

Sometimes the disorder proceeds from the irritation of worms; in which case anthelmintic medicines are to be prescribed.

Evacua-

Evacuations having been premised, the cure is to be completed by strengthening remedies, such as the Peruvian bark, chalybeate medicines, and cold-bathing.

W O R M S.

Worms are chiefly incident to children, and are distinguished into three species, the round, the ascarides, and the tinea. According to the degree of irritation they excite, the part of the alimentary tube which they occupy, and other circumstances, they occasion a variety of symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, looseness, costiveness, an itching of the nose or anus, faintings, an intermitting, weak pulse, offensive breath, grinding of the teeth, &c.

The remedies are anthelmintic medicines, with a dose of rhubarb, and a few grains of calomel repeated occasionally.

Externally, ointments and plasters are sometimes used with success.

HÆMORRHOIDS, or PILES.

The hæmorrhoids consist in a distension of the lower part of the intestinum rectum, and are distinguished into two kinds, viz. the internal and external.

When the piles succeed a chronical head-ach, or other complaint, they are sometimes salutary, and, instead of being checked, ought rather to be promoted, by aloetic medicines, or leeches applied to the part.

When the complaint is violent, we may order blood-letting and a cool diet; but in common cases the disorder may be removed by laxative medicines*.

* R Electar. lenitiv. ℥i. Flor sulphur. ℥β.
Cremor. tartar. ʒii. m. f. electarium
cujus capiat æger quantitatem nucis
moschat. semel vel bis in die.

In case of great pain, an opiate may be given; and an anodyne fomentation and ointment be applied to the part.

HÆMORRHAGES.

Hæmorrhages in general arise either from a fullness, or an acrimony of blood, and proceed most commonly from the nose or lungs. In both cases, when the patient is plethoric, venæsection should be performed in the arm; and nitre should be administered. A cooling diet is requisite; and the body should be kept open by some gentle laxative. When the fullness of the vessels is diminished, the Peruvian bark may be given with great advantage.

If the hæmorrhage be from the nose, the patient may use styptic applications, such as tincture of roses, vinegar, &c.

ITCH.

I T C H.

The specific remedy for this disease is sulphur, which is both more safe and more efficacious than mercury. It is to be applied externally, in the form of an ointment*, with which either a part of the body, or, in bad cases, the whole may be anointed successively for several nights.

Along with unction, the flowers of sulphur also are sometimes given internally.

As the fumes of sulphur, when liberally used, may heat the blood, at a time when the perspiration may be too much checked by the ointment, it is proper that the patient should be kept all the while to a cool diet, and guard against cold. If of a full habit, or in any de-

* R Sulphur. viv. præp. ℥i.
 Pulv. rad. hellebor. alb. ℥ii.
 Axungia porcin. ℥i℥. M.

gree feverish, he should let blood, and take a purge; otherwise, neither of those evacuations is necessary.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The venereal disease may be divided into the gonorrhœa virulenta, and the confirmed pox. The former is an inflammatory disease only, and ought to be treated by the antiphlogistic method of cure. Injections are found to be a safe, as well as the speediest remedy. A confirmed lues venerea must be eradicated by mercury; the most advantageous manner of administering which is now supposed to be by unction.

Buboes, it is found, may be safely discluded by mercurial ointment, if, during its use, the belly be kept open by gentle laxatives.

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